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More Will Vote Tory Next Time

Public Opinion Poll

London, Apr. 1. An increasing number of Britons think that the Conservatives will win the next election, according to the Daily Express' poll of public opinion to be published tomorrow.

Fifty per cent of the people questioned on the subject last month said that they would vote Conservative—an increase of six and a half per cent since October, 1950.

Only 39 per cent said that they would vote Labour, against 45 and a half per cent in October, 1950.

Eight per cent said that they would vote Liberal.

The poll is described by the Express as reflecting the opinions of a complete cross-section of the community.—Reuter.

GOV'T INTENTION

Blackhall, Durham, Apr. 1. The Defence Minister, Mr Emanuel Shinwell, said today that the Government would stay in office until it was defeated on a vote of censure in Parliament.

The only exception to that was if the Government considered the situation for a general election favourable to its own and the country's interests.

Then the Government would precipitate an election itself. It did not need the assistance of Mr Winston Churchill or the Opposition.

Mr Shinwell was commenting on Mr Churchill's recent statement that the Opposition would do its utmost to force an election.—Reuter.

Thinks Term Is Objectionable

Mebourne, Apr. 1. Albert J. Monk, president of the powerful Australian Council of Trade Unions, believes the term "White Australia" should be dropped from the nation's vocabulary.

He enforced the similar view of Prof. Sir Douglas Copland, one-time Australian Minister to China.

Mr Monk unsuccessfully tried at the recent 1950 Easter conference of the Australian Labour Party to have the term changed to "restricted immigration."

United Press.

Strike Still On

Paris, Apr. 1.

M. Antoine Pinay, the French Transport Minister, and an all-union Strike Committee failed tonight to reach a settlement of the 17-day-old Paris transport strike after a five-hour meeting here.

The strikers maintained their demand that they should be paid for the days during which they have been out. The Government suggested that pay cut for the strike period should be deducted over five months.

The Strike Committee will meet tomorrow morning to consider the Government's stand.

About 100 of the usual 450 underground trains were running today, but there were only about 15 buses on the road.—Reuter.

Vietminh Forces Repulsed

Hanoi, Apr. 1.

French Union forces have successfully driven off Vietminh attacks in the Tonkin delta of Indo-China and inflicted heavy losses on the attackers, a French Army communique said today.

The Vietminh offensive in Tonkin reached a climax on Friday and early yesterday in a battle below the Ongtrieu mountains in a rich coal mining district 45 miles north-east of Hanoi, the Vietminh capital, the communique said.

French sources last night thought that yesterday's assault was the beginning of the long expected Vietminh offensive against the Tonkin delta rice-bowl.

Despite their numerical inferiority the French Union forces offered stubborn resistance to innumerable attacks which the Vietminh forces kept up day and night, the communique said.

The French Air Force's American-built bombers and fighters and 105 mm guns continued to bomb the Vietminh concentrations.

The Vietminh retreated yesterday morning, leaving a "great" (Continued on Page 10 Col. 1)

A BARRAGE Heavy Fire Hurlled Across Parallel

Tokyo, Apr. 2.

Allied tank patrols firing on the run approached the 38th Parallel yesterday (Sunday) and hurled a volley of shells at Communist forces in North Korea.

The American tanks blasted Red positions on top of a ridge on the northern edge of the Chuncheon Valley but did not cross the controversial old political boundary as they had done on Saturday.

On the far east coast, Republic of Korea patrols pushed from 10 to 12 miles north of the parallel. They had fire support from the US heavy cruiser Saint Paul, which blasted Red positions north of Yangyang with powerful eight inch guns. The ROKs also captured a hill position five miles to the west.

Other naval units, including the US destroyers Massey and Wallace J. Lind and the British frigate Alacrity, bombarded bridges and road junctions around Songlin, 140 miles north of Wonsan on the east coast.

Fifteen miles inland from the east coast, another South Korean patrol was on the 38th Parallel.

There was little other activity on the fighting front during the day.

United Nations forces were in virtually the same positions along the parallel they had abandoned just three months ago.

In one case, South Korean infantry crouched in the same foxholes south of the Imjin River they had occupied when the Chinese and North Korean Reds launched a massive New Year's offensive.

The low hanging clouds provided a break for the Chinese Communist forces in their mauling of up to 300,000 troops and fresh supplies for an expected new smash south of the old political boundary.

Fifth Air Force night raiders spotted 700 enemy vehicles on the roads north of Seoul before midnight on Saturday. This brought the number of Red vehicles sighted since Wednesday to more than 6,300.

Another drop of surrender leaflets was planned today.

Aggressive Allied mountain combat troops rugged mountain country ahead of frontline positions along a 17-mile front between Chuncheon and Changnam without firing a shot.

The Fifth Air Force were back into action late yesterday after heavy clouds had hidden from view targets most of the day. Only 185 sorties were mounted.

It was the first time in weeks that Red supply vehicles had an opportunity to move freely by day. Even so, late afternoon sorties caught 22 Red vehicles just north of the Parallel on the central and western fronts.

Superforts based on Okinawa dropped 15 tons of bombs on three bridges in the Anju-Sinanju area of Northwest Korea.

In a summary of Fifth Air Force accomplishments in March, Major-General Earle E. Partridge reported his planes flew a record 20,000 sorties, killed or wounded 11,300 Communist troops, and knocked out 3,600 vehicles. Some 1,426 railway lines were destroyed or damaged.

During March, the Communists lost four Russian built MIG jets and one other probably destroyed, while 18 were damaged.—Associated Press.

Royal Maundy Service



The King and Queen, with Princess Margaret, attended the distribution of Royal Maundy money at Westminster Abbey on March 22. It was the King's first public engagement since his recent chill. Photo shows the King and Queen and Princess Margaret, holding traditional posies as they pass the lines of King's Scholars of Westminster School. Canon Don Dean of Westminster is with them.

PARALLEL

Attitude Defined

Blackhall, Durham, Apr. 1.

Britain has told the "proper quarters" that there must be full consultation before United Nations troops cross the 38th Parallel in Korea, the Defence Minister, Mr Emanuel Shinwell, said today.

It was a matter which could not be left to the military experts, he told a Labour Party meeting here.

Mr Shinwell said that when General Douglas MacArthur first crossed the 38th Parallel, he might have thought that he was interpreting rightly the instructions of the United Nations.

But other people had their interpretation. It might well be that General MacArthur was right in going to the Manchurian border.

Now, when the United Nations forces, who had been fighting below the 38th Parallel, were once again advancing, the British Government had made its position quite clear.

FULL CONSULTATION "We have said in the proper quarters that before there can be any crossing of the 38th Parallel there must be full consultation among the nations concerned within the United Nations Organisation," he declared.

"This is a matter that cannot be left to the military experts, because it is of highly political significance, though it has a military significance."

"If there is any criticism about the attitude of the Labour Government, we need not reproach ourselves, because, as regards to the Far East we have taken a very firm line."

Britain had decided that the Peking Government should be recognised by the United Nations, unfortunately, that had not been supported by the other countries.

"If it had, this trouble in Korea might have been avoided or at any rate ended much more speedily," Mr Shinwell said.

Britain did not want a stalemate in Korea, because that might lead to a very serious conflict which might spread throughout the world.

"We want a situation from which we can negotiate, with China and everyone concerned to put the whole of Korea on a sound basis," he added.

After saying that Britain had no alternative but to rearm, Mr Shinwell declared that the greatest danger she faced was an impression abroad that she was weak.

Referring to the Persian Parliament's decision to nationalise the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, Mr Shinwell said that Britain must ensure that international agreements were respected, because any attempt to violate them would be the end of the rule of law.—Reuter.

East-West Agreement Prospects Brighter

Paris, Apr. 1.

Prospects of a preliminary East-West agreement were brighter today than at any time since the Big Four deputies began work four weeks ago on the agenda for a full cold-war conference of the Foreign Ministers.

Western diplomats still saw little hope of a Big Four conference bringing settlement of the cold war in Europe but after weeks of bogdown, double talk and arguing in circles, the Big Four deputies appeared headed for agreement at least on the agenda that will make a Foreign Ministers' conference possible.

The break came at a secret meeting of the four deputies and one assistant each at a luncheon given yesterday by the US delegation head, Dr Philip Jessup.

Both sides agreed to quit time-wasting arguments over side issues and to concentrate on reaching agreement on a streamlined agenda. Both East and West had dragged in what were described as "red herring" items in their agenda proposals merely for bargaining purposes and these they agreed to scrap.

The Soviet deputy, Mr Andrei Gromyko, agreed to drop his demands for discussion of the Atlantic Pact, alleged American military bases in Europe and the Middle East, alleged breaches by the West of the Italian peace treaty, and denunciation of Germany and Austria in return the Western deputies agreed to drop their demand for Big Four discussion of breaches of the Balkan satellite peace treaties.

QUESTION OF TRIESTE There still remained the Soviet demand for discussion of the Adriatic port of Trieste where the Russians have charged the US and Great Britain with creation of naval and air bases.

Mr Gromyko has insisted on inclusion of Trieste in any talks.

Demonstration In New York

New York, Apr. 1. The police arrested six people who demonstrated in New York's Times Square tonight against the death sentences on Willie McGhee, the Mississippi Negro convicted of raping a white woman.

Test Monday McGhee failed in his fourth attempt to get the United States Supreme Court to review the case.

The arrested persons—three men and three women—were part of an estimated 500 people who demonstrated among Broadway theatre crowds in the Square, New York's Piccadilly Circus.

They were held on charges ranging from disorderly conduct to simple assault. All returned to their homes.

STREET BRAWL INCIDENT

Belgrade, Apr. 1.

The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug today accused the Hungarian Charge d'Affaires in Belgrade, Istvan Krabec, and the Aide de Camp of the Bulgarian Military attaché here, Ivan Ivanov, of starting a street brawl last night.

The news agency claimed that the Hungarian and Bulgarian Legations had for some time been deliberately interfering with Belgrade traffic so as to provoke incidents.

Belgrade Radio said tonight that the Yugoslav Government would protest to Hungary regarding the incident.

A protest was necessary because such occurrences aggravated the tense situation existing between Yugoslavia and her Cominform neighbour, the Radio said, Reuter.

YOUNG SMUGGLER SUSPECT KILLED

Lisbon, Apr. 1.

Spanish civil guards killed a 16-year-old Portuguese, Amantino Teixeira, who was suspected of smuggling, as he was crossing the Portuguese-Spanish frontier near Dulled Rodriguez, according to press reports received here today.

The guards seriously wounded Teixeira, 25-year-old brother, and arrested his father, 35-year-old Amaro Teixeira.

HOUSE COLLAPSE DISASTER

Indore, Central India, Apr. 1.

Thirty-eight women and four children were killed and 50 people were injured when a three-storey house collapsed here today.

The top floor of the building, where 100 women were holding a prayer meeting, gave way and brought down the other floors, eyewitnesses said. A hundred more people inside the building escaped by rushing to surrounding balconies. Police and rescue workers had tonight recovered all the bodies of the victims.—Reuter.

Strike In Iran Spreading

Teheran, Apr. 1.

The crippling strike in Iran's rich oil-producing region has spread to oil workers and a spokesman for the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company said today that nearly 12,000 employees were idle.

At the same time deputies were gathering here for an extraordinary session of the Majlis, summoned for Monday, to approve the recent imposition of martial law to which the powerful opposition party, the National front, is violently opposed.

The strikes spread as Soviet-Iranian relations deteriorated. The man in the street wondered what would happen next in this strife-torn land where the proposal to nationalise the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, in which the British Government is a stockholder, already has caused a series of assassinations.

THOUSANDS IDLE

The spokesman for the oil company said the strike in Agah Jari had spread to the Iranian clerical staff but the situation was unchanged in Bandar Mahmur and Lali. He said 500 Masjid strikers and Abadan apprentices had returned to work but thousands were stated to be idle.

A government source said 16 members of the fanatical group, two of whose members were accused of assassinating the Prime Minister, General Razmara, and the Education Minister, had been arrested since the imposition of martial law in Teheran after General Razmara's death. Reports indicated about 30 more probably would be arrested in the capital and strike areas.

Following the serious wounding of Yehya Bakhti, it was said the Provincial Governor General would press for martial law. Considerable unrest also was reported in Isfahan but it was considered unlikely government officials in Teheran would approve such a step.—United Press.

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Japanese Peace Treaty

IT is not surprising the Japanese are delighted with Mr Foster Dulles' proposed peace treaty. It is generous, almost to a fault, going practically the whole way in meeting the expressed desires of Japan's new political leaders. Tokyo will willingly give signature to it. Neither is it likely the general terms of the suggested treaty will encounter serious opposition from the rest of the war-time allies, except, of course, Russia, who will, purely for propaganda purposes, condemn the proposals, but there may be some dissension over certain clauses. Britain, for example, foresees a dangerous resurgence of Japanese commerce and industry, based on cheap labour, which would threaten Britain's textile industry and its merchant shipping. Mr Dulles apparently has no great sympathy for the British viewpoint. Yet London's fears are not groundless. British industrialists and manufacturers cannot readily forget the manner in which Japan undersold them in the world markets before the war, largely in consequence of virtual slave labour, and Britain, least of all the allied nations, can afford to be confronted with unfair competition at this critical phase of her economic history. The British government, therefore, has reason to feel apprehensive about peace treaty conditions which may quickly provide the Japanese with unfair advantages in commerce and industry. Mr Dulles is right and proper in insisting that Japan must be encouraged to stand on her own feet and herself to restore the nation's economic equilibrium. She cannot indefinitely go on looking for American money to maintain the country. Nevertheless, to give Japan complete freedom to capture world markets by under-selling on cheap labour would have disastrous repercussions elsewhere and would be intolerable. Britain's re-

quest for something to be written into the treaty that will place a restriction on Japan's textile and shipping industries is not unreasonable. Manifestly Mr Dulles during his recent visit to Australia and New Zealand was impressed by the heavy weight of public opinion in those countries for safeguards against re-militarism in Japan and his proposed concession is a Pacific security scheme that will be complementary to certain conditions in the Japanese peace treaty. But this is a subject closely connected with whatever proposals the United States has to make for aiding Japan's own defences. The current threat is not so much the Japanese nation becoming military minded, but of the country becoming the victim of successful Communist aggression. Any such development would compromise the security and peace of the South Pacific. A Pacific security pact, therefore, would require guarantees for the preservation of Japan against Russian aggression as well as safeguards against future Japanese military expansionism. As Mr Dulles has observed, the whole problem "is not yet fully explored." What is obvious is that Japan cannot be left defenceless. On this point there will be no dispute among the allied nations, except, naturally, by Russia who wishes to see anything but a Japan in a position to sustain her unity and integrity. By and large the American proposals for a Japanese peace treaty, based on Mr Dulles' disclosures, are eminently fair to Japan and offer a sound working basis. But the United States must not feel dismayed or frustrated if some of her allies do not see eye to eye with all of the conditions as laid down. There seems to be no valid reason why some of them cannot be modified without jeopardising the fundamental design and spirit of the treaty.

Hit On The Head By Assailant

Washington, Apr. 1.

Major General Patrick Hurley, Under-Secretary of War and one-time Ambassador to China, was recovering today from head wounds inflicted by a nocturnal assailant who fled after the doughty general turned to battle.

The 68-year-old retired officer was reported in "good" condition at Walter Reed Army Hospital where he was taken after a mysterious attack on Saturday night on the doorstep of his home here.

The police pressed a city-wide search for the attacker described by Gen. Hurley as a negro man about five feet 10 inches tall and of the average build.

Officials said there was nothing to indicate that the man who struck Gen. Hurley from behind with a blunt instrument was attempting to commit a political assassination. That appeared to leave robbery as the most likely motive for the assault, although Gen. Hurley said the man made no attempt to rob him.—United Press.

Demonstration In New York

New York, Apr. 1.

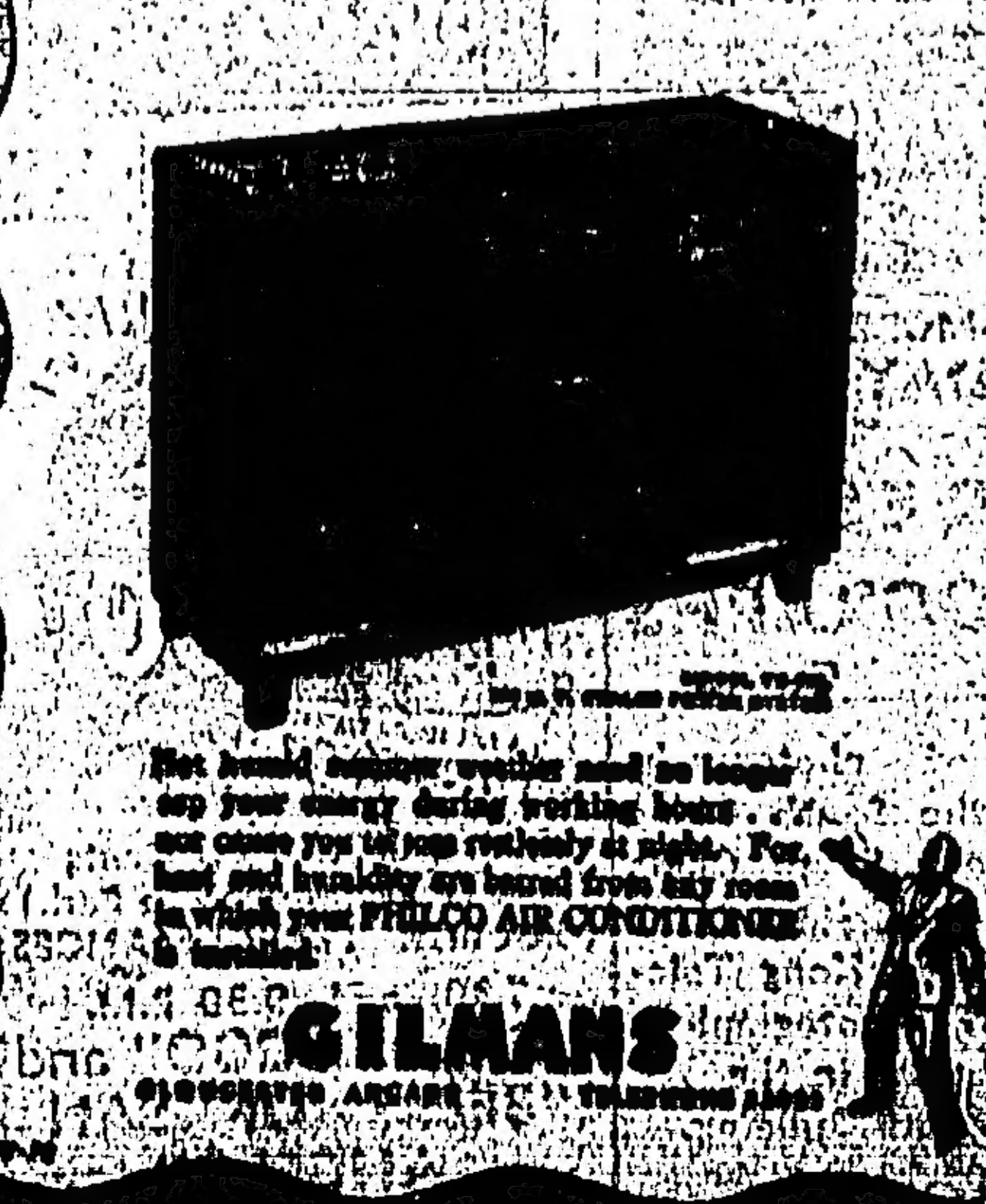
The police arrested six people who demonstrated in New York's Times Square tonight against the death sentences on Willie McGhee, the Mississippi Negro convicted of raping a white woman.

Test Monday McGhee failed in his fourth attempt to get the United States Supreme Court to review the case.

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They were held on charges ranging from disorderly conduct to simple assault. All returned to their homes.

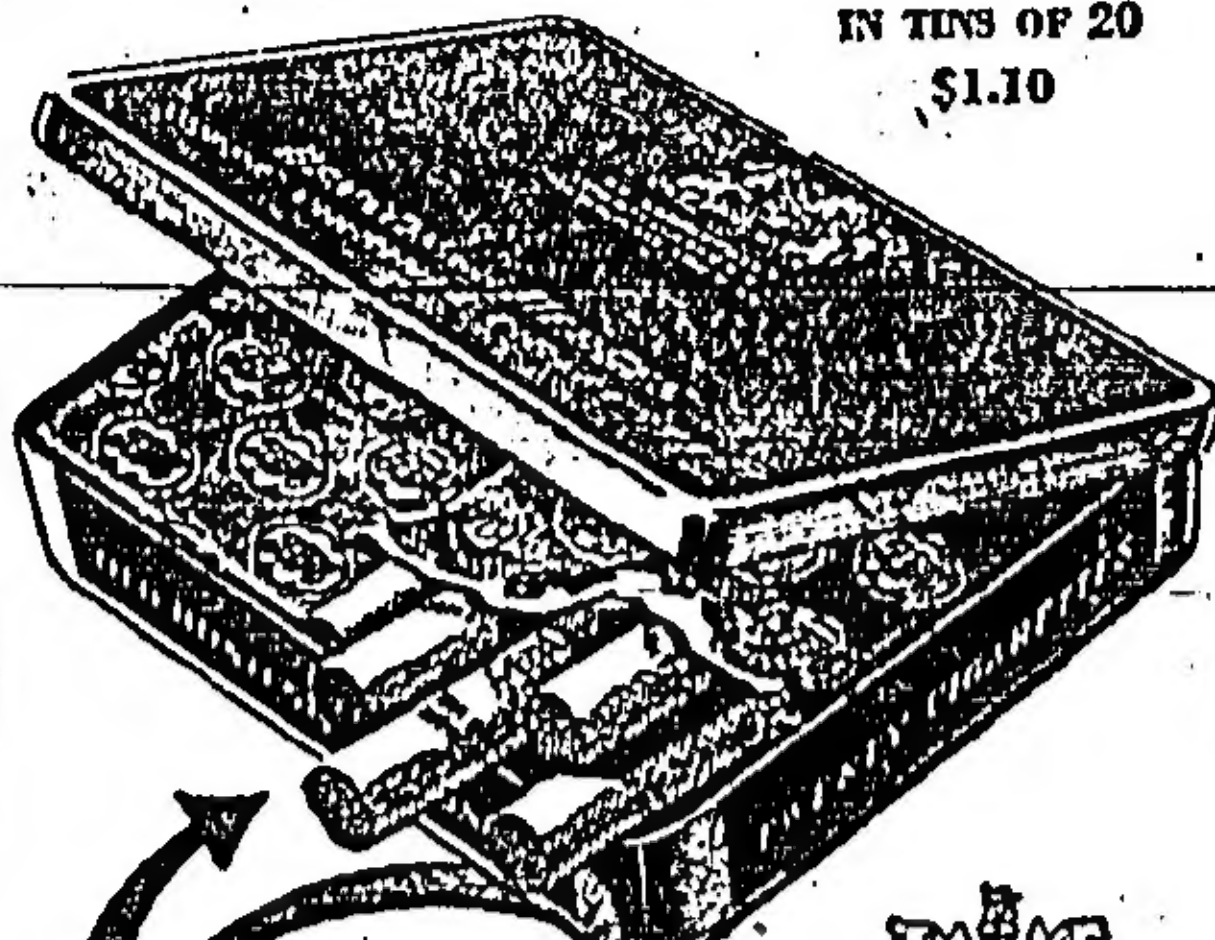
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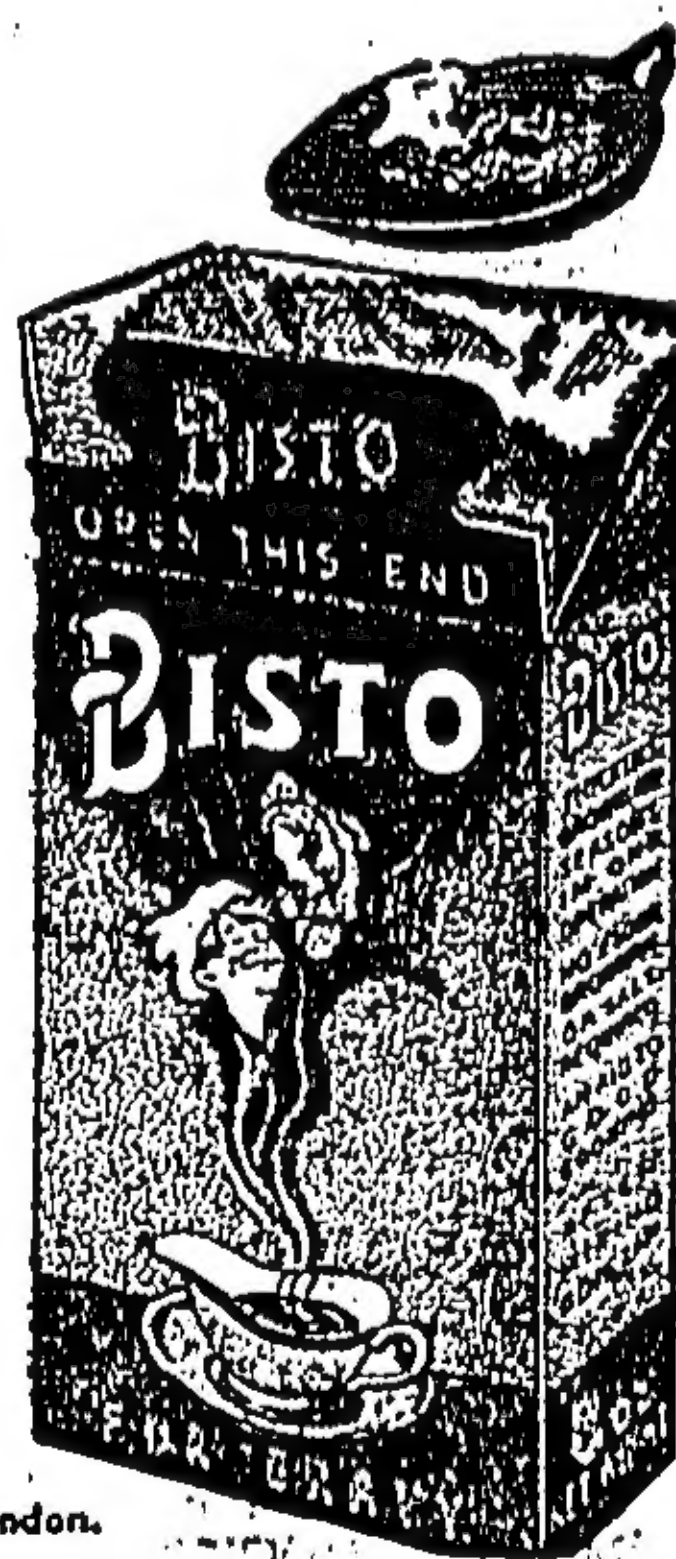
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FREDERICK COOK asks

DOES REARMAMENT IMPERIL POINT 4?

NEW YORK. What happens now to Point Four?

With a fast-rearmament America doubling the number she first thought of every other week—adding rows of noughts to all prior conceptions of defence spending—what are the chances for the great Truman project to develop the world's backward regions with infusions of American dollars and technical help?

"Pretty good," think the men who run Point Four.

They take the view that the worse the world situation becomes the greater the need for Point Four. They believe that it is a hundred times more necessary now. Few here are inclined to quarrel with them in this.

But an impressive amount of opposition is building up, based in the fear that even rich and industrially-powerful America can over-reach herself.

In both houses of Congress, voices are now heard in favour of deep cuts into

all non-military expenditures. The administrators of Point Four know that for them the testing time will come in April, when Congress debates the money they want to spend. A hard fight is expected in the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Relations Committees of both houses, before the Appropriations Committee are again on the House and Senate floor.

Meantime Point Four is going ahead on the assumption that one way or another it will get the "green light."

More Necessary

The extent of the expansion planned is illustrated by the figures: In the current fiscal year, appropriations for Point Four equalled \$34,500,000. Plans so far announced call for about \$100,000,000 in 1951.

Dr Henry Garland Bennett, President of Oklahoma State College and recently-appointed boss of Point Four, told me in Washington: "The present world situation certainly makes it necessary to aug-

ment rather than decrease the Point Four budget. In my opinion, the causes which brought the programme into being exist to-day more than ever. As long as there is disease and hunger in the world Point Four will be necessary."

Point Four had its birth in President Truman's inaugural address on January 20, 1949, when he outlined this country's foreign policy in terms of four major courses of action.

Defining the fourth of these, Mr Truman said: "We must embark on a bold new programme for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of under-developed areas. I believe that we should make available to peace-loving peoples the benefits of our store of technical knowledge in order to help them realise their aspirations for a better life... and in co-operation with other nations we should foster capital investment in areas needing development."

Out of that brief message sprang a world-wide operation.

Many Projects

The rebuilding of a prehistoric irrigation system in Ceylon, surveys of Saudi Arabia's sandy wastelands for possible dam sites, new highways in central Africa, public health programmes in the post-holes of South America—all these and a great variety of other projects are included in the schemes either already authorised or planned.

A hundred and one separate projects have been formally approved. They touch 29 countries in the Near East, Middle East, Latin America, Africa, Asia and tropical Africa. Major ones among those so far approved are in Iran, Liberia and Brazil.

In addition applications are in for 170 more schemes of great diversity.

Point Four is run by an office of the State Department known as the "Technical Co-operation Administration," with Dr Bennett as its head. But officials of E.C.A.—the "Marshall Plan"—have a large hand too in the operation of extending U.S. aid to the less advanced parts of the world.

The Marshall Plan headquarters in Washington put up the money for technical schemes in countries coming under their "authority"; the Point Four people take care of those not covered by E.C.A. In the educational field, Point Four supplements the work of E.C.A.

As one official put it: "The objectives are the same. The two organisations are proceeding to the same goal down roads which are often more or less parallel."

Two Conditions

There are two fundamental conditions governing the selection of a particular project as one suitable for Point Four help. These are:

1. It must represent the free choice of the country concerned and be in its interest according to its own determination; and
2. It must further the underlying objective of the programme by improving the living standards of the people of economically under-developed areas by enabling them to realise more fully the potentialities of their own resources, both human and material.

When an application for aid is made, it passes through five clearly defined steps towards final approval. First it is investigated by officials of the

U.S. embassy in the country concerned, working with officials of the requesting Government. Secondly, it is forwarded to Washington with the "evaluation" of the embassy.

In the third phase, it is sent to the State Department staff up to the Administrator and by any other U.S. Government department involved. Then it is filed in with what is known of United Nations or other international projects for the region concerned.

Lastly, before agreements are signed between the requesting Government and the U.S.A., detailed operational plans are drawn up and estimates made of the money needed.

Not Charity

Officials of both E.C.A. and Point Four are regularly under attack in the U.S.A. from people who are appalled to read of the large sums it is proposed to spend in places they themselves have never heard of. The officials point out that in his original message the President used the phrase "in co-operation with other nations" and that this is how the proffered assistance works out. Only a proportion of the bill is finally borne by the American taxpayer.

The Point Four people wish it to be remembered that what they are about is co-operation, not charity. And they think that from America's point of view she is getting bargain value for her dollars.

Experience with the Point Four Programme is teaching the American administrator—a man genuinely anxious to do good in the world—a great deal about the difficulties and responsibilities of his relations with other people.

A major lesson has already been learned by the administrators of Point Four in India. It is that, while they may need economic help and appreciate it, the people of other countries do not want to be Americans.

They do not understand or especially admire the American way of life. They want such help as is forthcoming fitted in with their own scheme of things, which they developed over centuries and see no reason to change in fundamentals.

Knew Better

Mr Horace Holmes, who has been a consultant with the Indian Government for the past two years working on improvement of food supplies, has just gone back again after a visit home to tell Washington some of the things he has learned as well as taught.

When he first went out, Mr Holmes was assigned to a poverty-stricken region of the United Provinces near Mathura. The prospects he found were highly discouraging. Most of the villages were half starved, illiterate and infested with disease and parasites. "The land swarmed with sacred cows," he reported back to the State Department. These were allowed to wander unchecked, competing with the people for the meagre crops.

Mr Holmes knew better than to interfere with the sacred cows. He had been warned in advance. He let them strictly alone but defeated them in the end by persuading the villagers to grow new types of legumes which the cows would not eat.

Carefully sidestepping local taboos and the customs of centuries, he got a handful of the more daring village farmers to plant a new kind of Indian wheat. In the first season it yielded 43 percent more than the type previously grown.

Another Winner

The next year, whole villages clamoured for seed. When Holmes, now gaining their confidence, showed the farmers how to rotate their wheat with soil-improving legumes, the yield went up to 65 percent better than the old seed.

With potatoes, Point Four scored another winner. A newly-introduced variety yielded 112 percent more than the type previously cultivated.

Membership for Yugoslavia and Spain will be proposed to the Council of Europe by the Council of Foreign Ministers unless Mao Tse-tung is re-presented.

Russia has told the Western Powers that there can be no discussion on a global basis at the Council of Foreign Ministers unless Mao Tse-tung is re-presented.

There will be no Supreme Naval Commander in the Atlantic, which will be divided into East and West commands.

were taught how to operate a turning plough and a five-toothed cultivator. A simple thrasher made it possible for the farmer to thresh his crop in three instead of seven days.

In the manufactured form, fertilizer was something new. A few at a time, Holmes persuaded the farmer to try it. Then he introduced DDT and launched a pest control programme for the first time in that part of Asia.

The project set about by Horace Holmes (a former State agricultural official in North Carolina) where the summers are little less oppressive than India's is now being rapidly expanded. Several more U.S. technicians are preparing to leave for the United Provinces to join him.

The programme launched around Mathura is only one of five already formally approved for India. Others are now in the final discussion stage in New Delhi.

High hopes are held in Washington for the Point Four agreement signed last month in Delhi by the American Ambassador, Mr Loy Henderson, and India's Foreign Minister, Sir Girja Balpal.

In Burma

"The agreement," said Dr H. G. Bennett, head of Point Four, "creates a magnificent opportunity for two great nations to work together for their mutual progress and well-being. It is the most realistic and practical way of bringing out two peoples together in growing understanding and respect."

For the people of Burma, however, Point Four may yet prove a somewhat mixed blessing. Said a spokesman for the Point Four headquarters in Washington recently: "If the Burmese want a sewerage system for Rangoon, we will show them how to build it. And we will also show them how to set up a tax system so that they can collect, and how to ensure that the money collected reaches the Government. But American drains and efficient tax-collecting may not appeal to everyone in Burma."

Burma is fast developing into one of the busiest scenes of American postwar activity in Asia. The Marshall Plan has allocated \$1,750,000 for the purchase of cotton thread and a further \$81,000 for antibiotics such as penicillin. Point Four has sent or is sending soon a port engineer to assist in the repair of Rangoon Harbour; a medical specialist; two experts in malaria control and prevention; three top sanitation engineers and two entomologists to work on insect extermination.

Burma has also made formal application for the aid of American housing experts to help solve the overcrowding problem in Rangoon.

Tin Output

The total aid-to-Burma programme will amount to between \$8,000,000 and \$10,000,000 in the first year of Point Four. Innumerable other programmes are being pressed forward. The largest are in territories that have long been major U.S. interests—such as the Republic of Liberia, where a road network is planned, and in the Philippines. Technical assistance there is contingent on "certain compromise" to be worked out with Manila, including rectification of certain taxation inequities to which Washington has objected. "But," said one Point Four man, "we are getting ready to move in there. We have a five-year programme of technical and economic aid for the restoration of Philippine industries and the introduction of new ones."

In Malaya assistance to the extent of \$500,000 is being granted for the building of roads and "to assist the Government authorities to take more effective security measures." New roads would shorten distances in central Malaya by as much as 70 miles. American interest largely stems from a desire to increase tin output.

POCKET-CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



"I say, Vicar, I've just thought up a wizard leg-pull—I'm going to write a MADLY Left-wing letter to my M.P. and sign it Hewlett Johnson!"

He Found Tomb Of Mentemhet

By MARGARET GILRUTH

CAIRO.

In the centuries before Christ, a vast metropolis lay along the face of a peaked line of limestone hills overshadowing the Nile as it neared its more remote reaches.

During the last 80 years, about 500 tombs and temples have been uncovered. Now the name of another archaeologist, Zacharia Ghoneim, has been revealed. He is an Egyptian from Alexandria, and it is to his credit that the imposing tomb of Mentemhet was found.

Mentemhet, said to have been a Negro, was a famous prince in the heyday of Thebes. He was made governor of the city in the reign of King Taharqa, in the 26th dynasty, and his wife was known as a Chantress for the God Amun.

MAJESTIC PYLON

But nobody believed Prince Mentemhet's tomb and temple would exist on such a prodigious scale. At ground level is a majestic pylon of crude brick—the entrance to the tomb of Mentemhet. Here the car must be abandoned; a donkey-path is used to cross to the temple itself.

Behind the pylon, there is a stairway leading first to a vestibule, then to a subterranean hall. This, of huge dimensions, has a roof supported by four columns. From here you penetrate a court. It has an elegant cornice—passage leading to the right and left, to niches adorned with statues of Mentemhet and his wife.

Forty Times

Running right along the walls of one are hieroglyphics repeating, for forty times, the names of Osiris, God of the Dead, and Ra, God of the Sun.

At the other end of the court, at either side of the exit doorway, there are two stairways sinking into the earth. One was never finished, but the other with its walls covered with hieroglyphs of the sun, leads to chambers not yet explored.

There is another court to be excavated, immense subterranean places to be penetrated—possibly during this digging season, which ends in May, when oppressive heat makes work intolerable.

INSIDE INFORMATION

CHINA is refusing to renew the traditional right of India to keep garrisons in Garkot and other frontier outposts on Tibetan soil.

This weakens Indian hold on Kashmir. Relations between India and China are growing worse.

Chinese consulates in India are being enlarged and used to support the Communist party. Indian security officers are watching the movements of the Chinese missions.

South Africa expects soon to be declared a republic by the Malian government.

South Africa stamps have already been prepared for sale with the Malian government.

By MERCURY

The Pretoria government asked Mr Gordon-Walker, Minister for Commonwealth Relations, for the three British protectorates as the price of continuing Dominion status.

Membership for Yugoslavia and Spain will be proposed to the Council of Europe by the Council of Foreign Ministers unless Mao Tse-tung is re-presented.

Russia has told the Western Powers that there can be no discussion on a global basis at the Council of Foreign Ministers unless Mao Tse-tung is re-presented.

There will be no Supreme Naval Commander in the Atlantic, which will be divided into East and West commands.

A chain of air bases for Western defence is being constructed in Crete.

Turkey is building a strategic road network near her borders with Russia and improving 8,000 miles of road with U.S. financial aid.

U.S. aid will finance the mining of 300,000,000 tons of low-grade iron ore in Norway for Atlantic Treaty countries.

The U.S. coal industry has been told that it may have to export as much as 10,000,000 tons of coal to Western Europe this year.

A London military club is holding its premises for a full dress Territorial Army ball during the Festival.

Organized by the Royal Corps of Signals, the ball will be held at Royal Palace Hotel.

The U.S. Army is developing a parachute which lands soldiers in a padded container.

Under a secret training agreement the Polish army has invited East German police units to join its spring manoeuvres with their own tanks and artillery.

The Colonial Secretary will visit East Africa in April to study local conditions.

Chinese troops in Formosa are being armed with modern American weapons.

The Czech Chief of Political Security, Mr. J. Vesely, is under arrest in Prague.

The Czech consul in Hamburg and Dresden have been recalled. One is in a Prague prison.

THE WORLD'S ATHLETES WILL TAKE PART IN BRITAIN'S FESTIVAL OF SPORT

By WALTER PILKINGTON

Sports promoters are preparing for the most impressive parade of activities ever staged in Britain, for they intend their contribution to the Festival of Britain to be one visitors will remember. Their ambition is to prove that sports which now enjoy world wide popularity, among them football, boxing, tennis, golf and athletics, are still flourishing where they were fostered and originally developed and that Britain is far from being backward at any of them.

The old supremacy, inevitably, has suffered as other countries have advanced in their pursuit of various sports, often to specialise in certain games, but setbacks have not dampened British enthusiasm.

The approach is the sensible one that there is nothing wrong that cannot be put right with practice and determination. This attitude has been proved right by the English cricket team in Australia. A chorus of pessimists rated their chances as precisely nil when the team sailed. Their gloomy outlook was based on the slow recovery of the game from the dislocation caused by World II and on a sorry a showing last summer.

GEORGE HIRST'S £3,703 TOPS BENEFITS LIST

The sum of £14,000 to Cyril Washbrook in 1948 tops the list of cricketers' benefits, though that isn't the most that any man has got out of the game by any means. In 1904 the great George Hirst had a benefit of £3,703. Taking into account the depreciation of the £ by half during the 1914-18 war, and a similar trend since the last war, this would work out in present day figures as being worth £14,812 — the greatest benefit of all time.

"Playfair Book of Cricket Records" (Roy Webber, 25s.) worked this out.

It seemed to have been forgotten that World War I produced a similar barren spell. The game was revived by the devotion of those who loved it. Yet when England in 1925 beat Australia it was the first win since 1912. Thirteen years! Cricket is slow to recover from the crippling effect of war. But in 1928 English cricket was itself again. England then won four of the five Tests in Australia.

When the West Indies first brought a cricket team to England they were overwhelmed. But their spirit was not killed by defeat. None of their supporters suggested they should abandon their ambitions because they had been outclassed. All they thought about was how soon would they get another opportunity. That is what the English cricketers wanted after the West Indians had triumphed over them last summer.

What happened? F. R. Brown and his men ignored scare talk that Australia could turn out three Test teams of equal standing and all of them better than England's best!

They fought courageously in the first two Tests and might have won both if the weather had not abruptly changed to play a decisive part. Australia

won the first four but were given some shocks in spite of England being handicapped by injuries.

But England, who refused to have a defeatist complex, went on trying. Inspired by their captain, F. R. Brown, they won the last Test on their merits and won it handsomely. Again 13 years had elapsed since the last England cricket victory over Australia and again there was a war between. It is a significant coincidence.

FROM 16 NATIONS

Britain's comparative success in the Olympic Games in London in 1948 proved that this urge to overcome obstacles and resist depression is still strong. A Festival sports programme of more than 600 major events of remarkable variety will provide the opportunity to convince vast numbers of visitors that Britain has the ability to Football clubs from 16 nations will be entertained. International matches with the Argentine, France, Italy, Portugal and Belgium offer a feast which sport lovers will relish.

Union of South Africa men and Australian women will tour England playing cricket. Lawn tennis and tournament golf are promised an abundance of overseas entrants. Yachting, archery, bowls, motor boat racing, fencing, lacrosse, hockey, wrestling, swimming, athletics, net ball and its modern rival basketball will give competitors from abroad every chance of pitting their skill against United Kingdom exponents.

That rowers' paradise, Henley Royal Regatta, enjoyed a record entry representing seven countries last summer. There are likely to be more this year.

Golfers in various parts of the world have announced their intention of coming to Britain. If, as is expected, they include Bobby Locke, Norman von Nida, Kolvin Nagle, Ossie Pickworth, Hassan Hassanein, Al Zimmerman and other noted names, the fairways will be dazzling with talent. The visit of the United States woman athlete and golf phenomenon "Babe" Zaharias will delight many golf followers.

WORLD TITLE FIGHT

Boxing, as one surmised, has not scorned the chance to stage something really big. Promoter Jack Solomons has some strong cards to play and his ace is "Sugar" Ray Robinson's promise to defend his world middleweight title in London this summer.

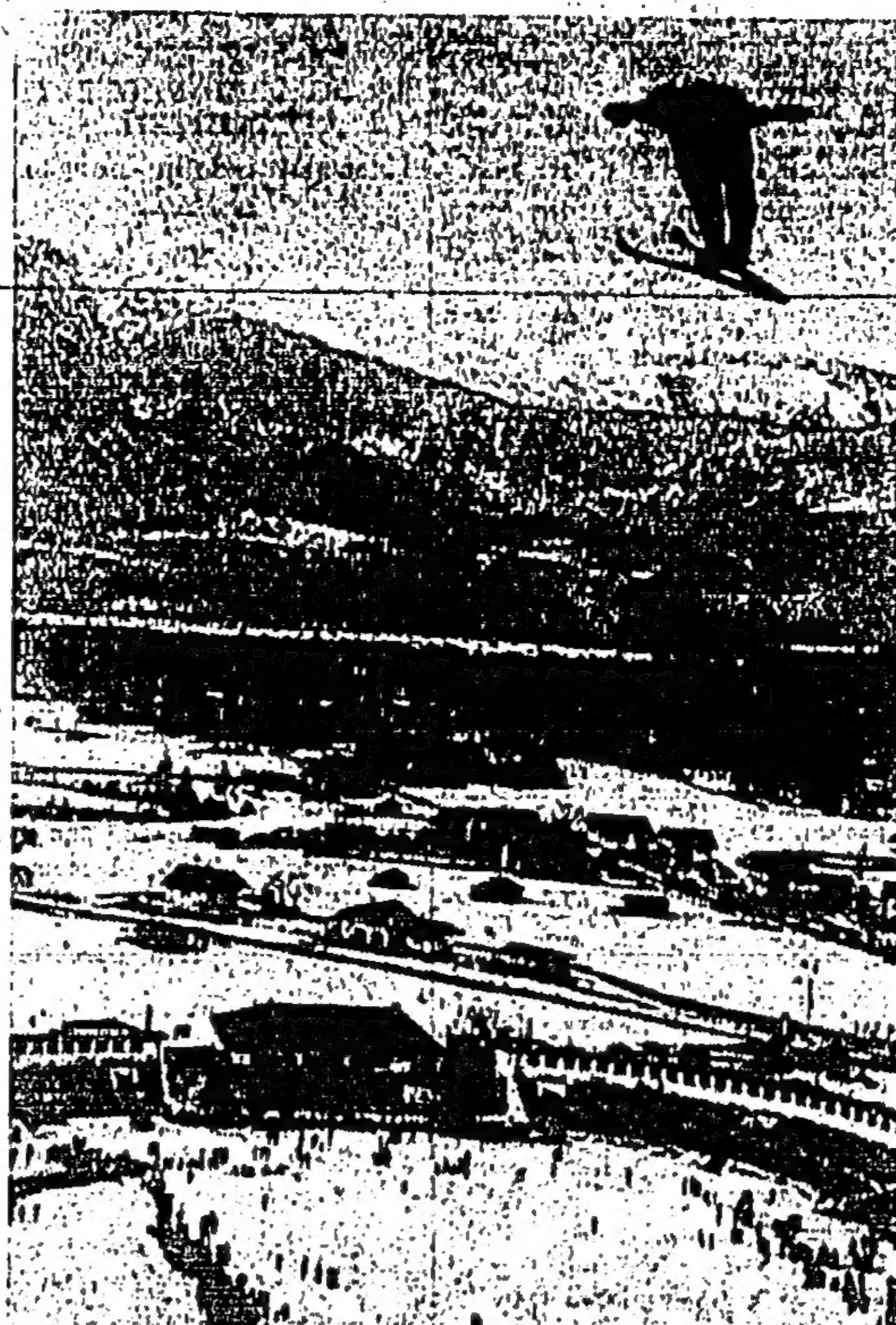
Solomons is staking much on 22 years-old Randolph Turpin whom he regards as the best prospect available for a contest of world ranking. He is the key piece in a series of matches intended to culminate in a struggle for the middleweight crown between the coloured boxers Robinson and Turpin, when the sport festival is at its height.

Turpin has proved he possesses a killer punch. He laid the Dutchman, Luc van Dam, low within a minute in their contest for the vacant European title on February 27. Turpin shattered the Spaniard, Lopez, just as speedily in his previous bout. As Van Dam lasted four rounds against Robinson in Brussels early in December before taking the full count, Turpin clearly has proved himself a worthy challenger.

Solomons has heavyweights Jack Gardner and Don Cockell ready for other star matches. There is also Ron Clayton, the Blackpool featherweight, who so brilliantly retained his British and Empire titles in punishing the ferocious Al Phillips to a standstill.

(London Express Service)

SKI JUMPER'S VIEW



Sepp Kleisl, of Partenkirchen, makes a flying leap to win the German Alpine skiing championship held at Garmisch.—Express Photo.

Henry Longhurst On GOLF

10-1 Against

In asking for opinions on the scheme for revising golf course bogeys I should have an old enough hand to know what I was letting myself in for. For the past week my room in Chelsea has resembled the Town Hall on polling day. Volunteers have been busy sorting many hundreds of postcards—some of them running into six closely written pages—and we can now announce the verdict to be "Stop."

The figures worked out at almost exactly ten to one. Ninety-one percent said "Stop," against nine percent who wanted to go on. The latter, having failed to secure an eighth of the total votes, lost their deposit.

The majority are not always right. Indeed, wherever one looks, one finds evidence that they are generally wrong. Whereas, however, the opinion of the masses on the situation in Korea may be taken with cynical indifference, here we have golfers recording their opinions on golf, and on this at least their views are entitled to be heard.

Those "in favour" point to the logic of assessing all bogeys on a common basis. This, of course, has never been in dispute. The scheme has been

designed to do that all along, though we now see that some clubs (e.g. West Hill at 76, now to be 71) had been assessed on a more generous basis than their neighbours.

"SMALLER TARGET"

Many of the "Go Ons" hold that a lower bogey, and therefore a higher standard of scratch, will improve the level of the best players and eventually be reflected in the results of our matches with the United States. "A smaller target improves the shooting" is a phrase that more than once caught the eye.

Among the majority, the view appears widely that all this is the fault of poor Rorie White and his excessive skill. "From my private poll, taken from nine Brigadiers, 18 Colonels, a Naval Commander and a retired hosiery manufacturer," says a Budeigh Salterton member, "I find the opinion distinctly adverse. Hang Rorie White!"

Others mention the cost of printing new cards, the business of altering everyone's handicap, and the disappointment at no longer securing the occasional birdie; but the main basis of complaint reflects that worthy characteristic, happily still amounging—the Englishman's intense resentment at being "mucked about." The more I see of it, the more I fancy that this scheme was logically right, psychologically wrong.

"Stop, for the love of P. G. Woodhouse," cries a man from Woking. "Suggest a Saturday afternoon at-down strike on all courses—when the better weather comes," says a cautious revolutionary from Ipswich. "Based on one false premise after another," declares a senior golf architect. "Sack the antiquated bogey system with present bogey," writes one of several galling poets.

A COMMON VIEW

A London club sends me a copy of its resolutions to its county union to postpone the scheme till October, and in the meantime ask clubs if they want it. This, too, is a common view.

It took a Cambridge man, now of great eminence in the police force, to put his finger on a solution so overwhelming by obvious as to have no chance of being considered. "If you find that the ball goes further," he says in effect, "why alter the bogeys of 1,000 courses and the handicaps of half a million golfers to fit it? Why not control the ball to fit the golfers? Come, come, air. Life is not as simple as that. Don't spoil the fun!"

Humbly grateful for all the help received, I shall now convey the correspondence in a book and leave it at the feet of the President of the English Golf Union.

BOAT RACE IS GOING BROKE

If rising costs continue it will soon be too expensive to row the University Boat Race on the Tideway. As it cannot be rowed at Oxford or Cambridge, the only alternative would be Henley.

But the Boat Race is surely one of London's best-loved events. Like the Changing of the Guard and the Lord Mayor's Show, this is something everyone who comes to Town can see for nothing.

Because it is a free show which requires no technical knowledge to understand, and has never been copied anywhere in the world, it must be kept to its traditional background.

The people who could ensure this are those who have wharves, breweries, works, flats, hotels and clubs along the course. All these regard the University Boat Race as the opportunity of the year to entertain their friends; in other cases landlords and clubs make money by charging for admission.

A WHIP ROUND

The suggestion has been made that all these should be told the facts about Boat Race finance, and should whip round and so stand some share of the expense.

The idea is a good one and should be supported. Much of the cost of the race must today be borne by the carman himself. College funds are running low. Expenses cannot be reduced, because the river is a King's Highway the tow-path cannot be closed. The sale of souvenir programmes or of television rights does not meet the mounting deficit.

(London Express Service)

England Wins Cross Country Championship

Caerleon, Monmouthshire, Mar. 31.

England, with three men in the first four places, won the International Cross Country Championship over nine and a quarter miles here today.

England totalled 47 points and were followed by France, the holders with 54 points, and Belgium was third with 99 points.

The first man home was Geoff Saunders, England, in 54 minutes and seven seconds. He finished over 150 yards in front of his team mate, Frank Aaron with C. Cerou, France, about the same distance away third.

Saunders and Aaron ran shoulder to shoulder for the first two laps and went well clear of the field. After four laps, Saunders was about 40 yards in front of Aaron, the English champion and he gradually increased this distance over the rest of the race. Cerou, who had run in fourth place for most of the race, overtook W. Hesketh, the English junior champion, towards the end and took third place four metres ahead of the Englishman.—Reuter.

Provincial XVs Too Good For London Clubs

Says HYLTON CLEAVER

There is not much on which London rugby men will be entitled to congratulate themselves, when they look back upon the 1950-51 season.

Most significant factor has been the considerable superiority of provincial over Metropolitan clubs. Taken a cross-section and you will find that Bath, Bedford, Bristol, Coventry, Gloucester and Leicester have between them played 42 matches against London clubs and have lost only six of them.

Each won all their, except that with St. Mary's Hospital, which they drew. Gloucester lost only to London Scottish, Bedford to Metropolitan Police, Coventry to London Welsh.

Bristol and Leicester both lost to Harlequins. Leicester also lost to Rosslyn Park and Bristol drew with Wasps. If one extended this analysis, it would be found to work in much the same way with the Welsh clubs. And it must be remembered that most provincial clubs have to play Saturday county football.

(London Express Service)

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THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

FOURTH RACE MEETING

Saturday 7th & Saturday 14th April, 1951

The First Ball will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m. each day.

There are ten races each day (20 in all). Through Tickets at \$40.00 each may be obtained at the Comptroller Office of the Treasurer, 1st floor, Telephone House, also tickets at \$2.00 each for the Special Cash Sweep on the last race of the Meeting as well as the Special Cash Sweep on the "Hong Kong Derby" scheduled to be run on Saturday, 12th May.

Through Tickets reserved for this Meeting but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on Friday, 6th April, will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future meetings.

To avoid congestion at the Club's Offices at Telephone House, non-members are requested to purchase their sweep tickets at the Club's Branch Offices at—

5, D'Aguiar Street, Hong Kong

382, Nathan Road, Kowloon.

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

MEMBERS ARE INFORMED THE 1951 SETS OF MEMBERS AND LADIES' BADGES NOW SUPERSEDE THE PREVIOUS ISSUE.

Members and guests are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting ladies not in possession of Brooches or Season tickets and gentlemen, non-members of the Club, to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10.00 per day including tax, for ladies or gentlemen are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a member, such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him, and for payment of all bills etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurer's Comptroller Office will close at 11.00 a.m. and the Secretary's Office at 11.45 a.m. each day. Both offices at 1st floor, Telephone House.

A limited number of tiffls will be obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3.00 per day including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

BOOKMAKERS, TIC TAC MEN ETC., WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO OPERATE WITHIN THE PRECINCTS OF THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB DURING THE RACE MEETING.

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE OBTAINABLE IN THE RESTAURANT IN THE PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Servants' passes will be issued to private box holders only, who are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes. Holders of such passes are not permitted to enter the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties and must remain in their employers' stands.

Owing to the present congestion in the Members' Betting Hall, Box-holders and Members are requested to ensure that their servants make use only of the Public Betting Hall. Military Police will be posted at various entrances to the Members' Hall to ensure that this regulation is adhered to.

BY ORDER,
S. A. SLEAP,
Secretary.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

FOURTH RACE MEETING

1ST DAY, SATURDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1951.

The "MOUNT NICHOLSON HANDICAP" will be run in three sections, the third section will be Race No. 11 at 7.00 p.m.

There will be no cash sweep on the third section (Race No. 11).

2ND DAY, SATURDAY, 14TH APRIL, 1951.

The "MOUNT CAMERON HANDICAP" will run in three sections, the third section will be Race No. 9 at 5.30 p.m.

The "MOUNT PARKER HANDICAP" will run in two sections ONLY, Races 3 and 7.

By Order,

S. A. SLEAP,

Secretary.

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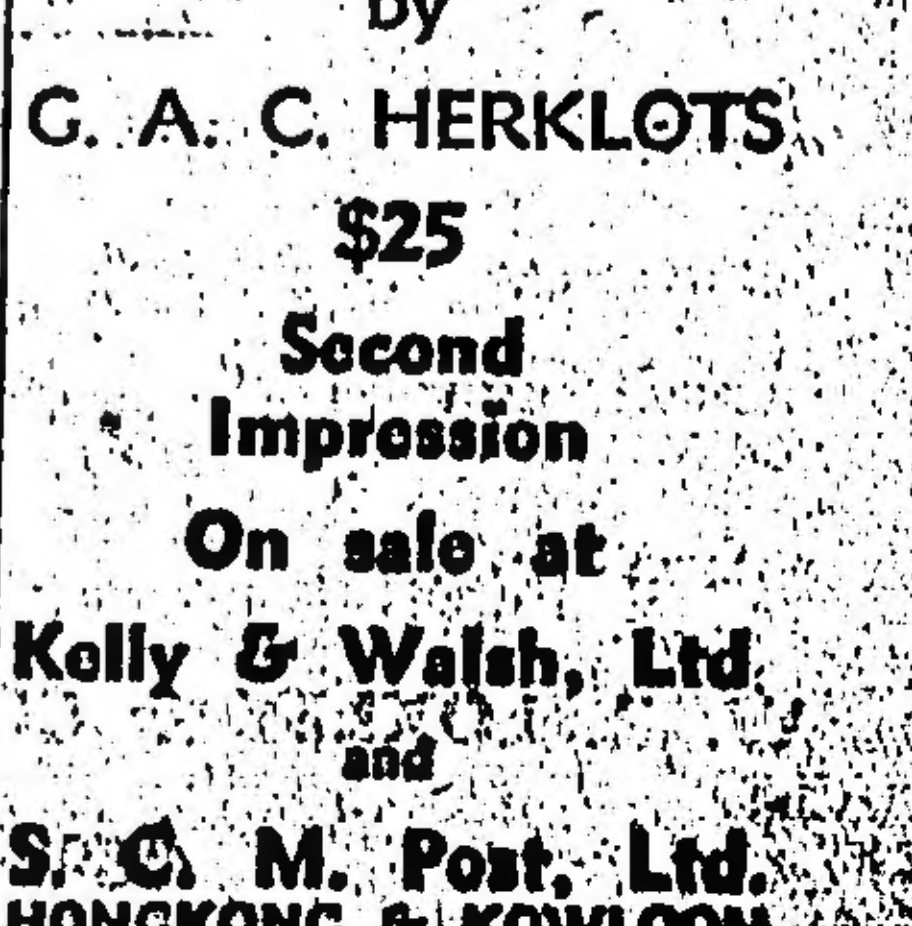
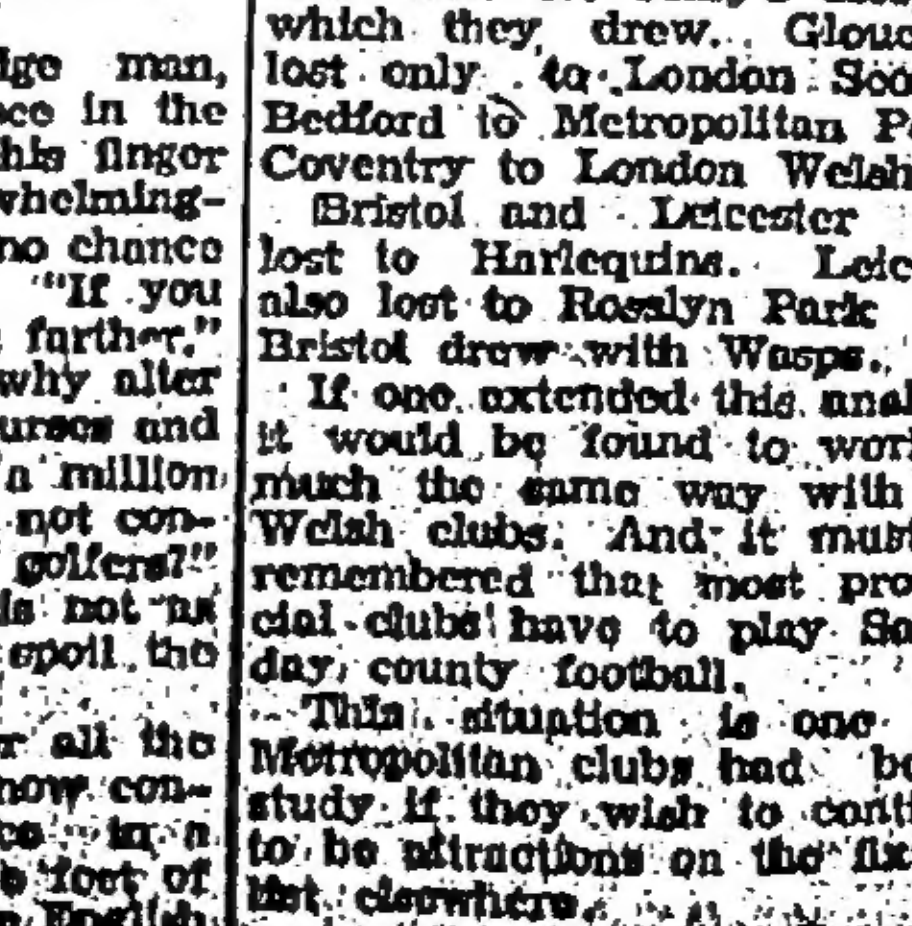
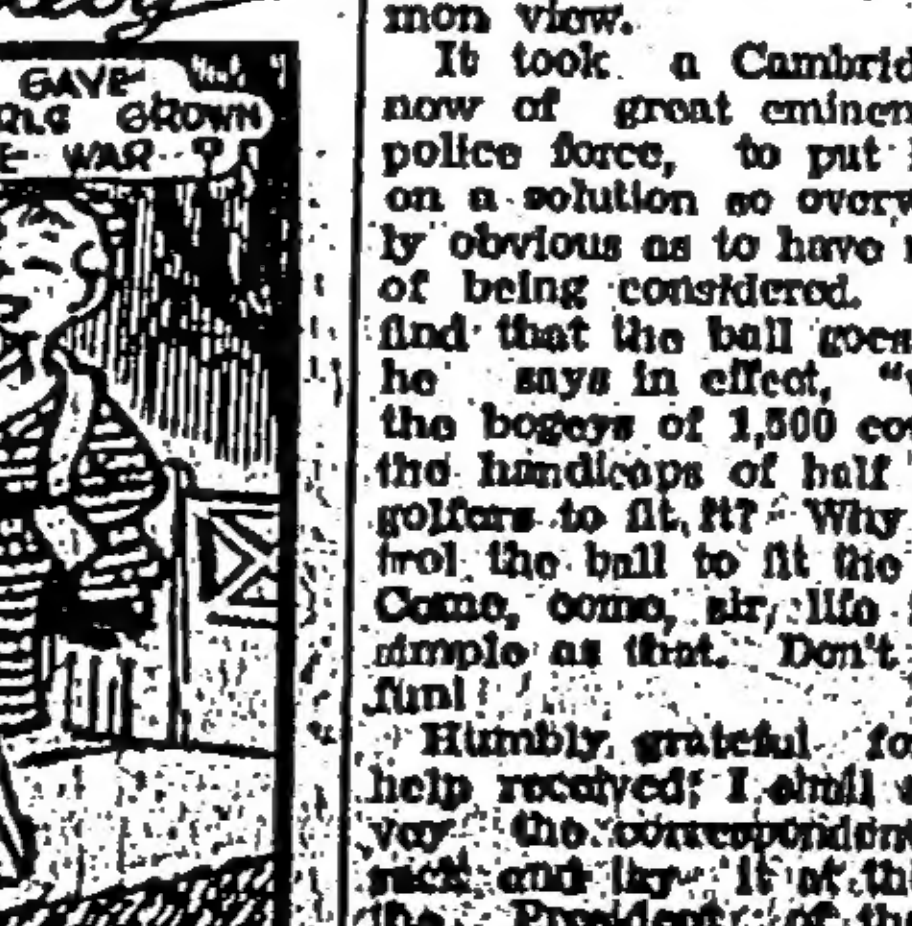
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"SHANGHAI"	Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	10 a.m. 4th Apr.
"POYANG"	Tientsin	10 a.m. 9th Apr.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 9th Apr.
"HANYANG"	Tsingtao & Tientsin	10 a.m. 10th Apr.
"SINKIANG"	Djakarta	5 p.m. 12th Apr.
"KWEIYANG"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	5 p.m. 14th Apr.
"SZECHUEN"	Bangkok	5 p.m. 18th Apr.

ARRIVALS FROM

"SHENGKING"	Keelung	7 a.m. 2nd Apr.
"POYANG"	Tientsin & Tsingtao	5th Apr.
"BOOCHOW"	Kobe	5th Apr.
"KWEIYANG"	Bangkok	8th Apr.
"YOHOW"	Sourabaya	7th Apr.
"SINKIANG"	Djakarta & Sibit	8th Apr.
"ANKING"	Moji	11th Apr.

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SAILINGS TO

"TAIYUAN"	Japan	28th Apr.
"CHANGSHA"	Japan	2nd week May
"TAIYUAN"	Sydney & Melbourne	20th May

ARRIVALS FROM

"TAIYUAN"	Sydney & Ports	24th Apr.
"CHANGSHA"	Australia	1st week May
"TAIYUAN"	Japan	19th May

BLUE FUNNEL LINE

Scheduled sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said

"PATROULUS"	Marseilles Liverpool & Glasgow	8th Apr.
"AUTOMEDON"	Liverpool & Glasgow	10th Apr.
"AENEAS"	Casablanca, Dublin & Liverpool	25th Apr.
"MYRMIDON"	Genoa, London, Rotterdam & Hamburg	29th Apr.

Scheduled sailings from Europe

Sails	Arrives
Liverpool	Hong Kong
S. "AENEAS" 24th Feb.	5th Apr.
"MYRMIDON" 7th Mar.	13th Apr.
"AUTOMEDON" 4th Mar.	13th Apr.
"PROMETHEUS" Sailed	16th Apr.
G. "PERSEUS" 18th Mar.	16th Apr.
S. "BELLEPHON" 21st Mar.	26th Apr.
"MARON" 28th Mar.	4th May
S. "ANTIOCHUS" 4th Apr.	9th May
G. "PYRRIUS" 13th Apr.	20th May

G. Loading Glasgow before Liverpool.

S. Loading Swansea before Liverpool.

Unscheduled.

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HK/Singapore (DC-4)	Noon Wed.	5.10 p.m. Thurs.
HK/Manila/B.N. Borneo (DC-3)	6.30 a.m. Mon.	4.00 p.m. Tues.
HK/Manila (DC-3)	10.00 a.m. Wed.	1.15 p.m. Thurs.

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"BENALDER"	do	on or abt. 7th Apr.
"BENAVON"	do	24th Apr.
"BENALDANACH"	do	2nd May
"BENVENUE"	do	10th May
"BENLAVERS"	do	22nd May

SAILINGS Loading on or abt.

"BENALDER"	Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin & Antwerp.	12th Apr.
"BENVENUE"	Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin & Rotterdam.	14th May
"BENMACDHUI"	London, Antwerp & Rotterdam.	K/Wharf 27th May
"BENLAVERS"	London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hull.	23rd Apr.

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NOTICE

ASSOCIATED PROPERTIES, LIMITED.

(Incorporated in Hongkong)

Notice to Shareholders

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the Company will be held at the Office of Atlas Realty, Ltd., Room 604, Edinburgh House, Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, on Saturday, the 14th day of April, 1951, at 12:00 Noon to transact the following business:—

- (1) To receive and consider the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1950.
- (2) To elect two Directors.
- (3) To appoint Auditors.
- (4) To transact such other business as may be properly transacted at an Ordinary General Meeting of the Company.

And Notice is also hereby given that the Register of Members and the Transfer Books will be closed from the 1st day of April, 1951 to the 14th day of April, 1951, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
ATLAS REALTY, LIMITED.
General Managers,
Hongkong, 31st March, 1951.

NOTICE

Take notice that as from April 1st, 1951, Mr Peter John Griffiths has been admitted as a Partner in Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist. The firm will continue under the same name.

WILKINSON & GRIST,
2, Queen's Road Central.
April 2nd, 1951.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Proposal to change three ships' names

We, Peters and Company, Limited of 36, Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong, hereby give notice that we have applied to the Minister of Transport, under Section 47 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in respect of the Vessels (named below) for permission to change their names as follows:—

1. Steam Tug "TID 131" changed to "SHUNLEY"—Off. No. 180407, Gross tonnage 64.43 tons.
2. Steam Tug "TID 125" changed to "HAILEY"—Off. No. 180397, Gross tonnage 64.43 tons.
3. Lighter "SIN TAI LUK" changed to "KAMLEY"—Off. No. 197674, Gross tonnage 150.48 tons.

and to have them registered in the new names at the Port of Hong Kong as owned by Peters and Company, Limited.

Any objection to the Proposed changes of names must be sent to the Registrar of Shipping at Hong Kong with-in SEVEN days from the appearance of this advertisement.

Dated at Hong Kong the thirtieth day of March, 1951.

PETERS AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES CERTIFICATES

Application Forms for Essential Supplies Certificates may be obtained from South China Morning Post Limited.

10 CENTS EACH.

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULA & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

Passenger/Freight Service

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
S.S. "CORFU"	8th April	8th April
S.S. "CANTON"	15th April	15th April
S.S. "CANTON"	3rd May	1st May
S.S. "CORFU"	31st May	2nd July

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
S.S. "CORFU"	13th April	14th May
S.S. "CANTON"	11th May	11th June
S.S. "CANTON"	8th June	10th July
S.S. "CORFU"	6th July	7th August

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London.

Freight Service

Outwards	Due Hongkong	From
S.S. "SHILLONG"	28th April	London & Continent
S.S. "TRESILLIAN"	9th April	—
S.S. "SUKAT"	3rd May	—
Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	For
S.S. "SHILLONG"	3rd May	London & Continent

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, London, Hamburg, Antwerp & Rotterdam with liberty to call at Bombay if indicated on bill of lading.

Tanks available for carriage of oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited passenger accomodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

S.S. "TAHARA"	due 4th April	from Japan
S.S. "TAHARA"	sails 6th April	for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta
S.S. "BANGOLA"	due 19th April	from Japan
S.S. "BANGOLA"	sails 21st April	for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong & Calcutta

* These ships have refrigerated cargo space.

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

S.S. "PENTAKOTA"	In Port	from Japan
S.S. "PENTAKOTA"	sails 1st April	for Singapore, Penang, Hongkong, Colombo, Bombay & Karachi
S.S. "MOZAFFRI"	due 2nd April	from Karachi
S.S. "MOZAFFRI"	sails 7th April	for Japan
S.S. "OLINDA"	due 31st Mar.	from Bombay, Colombo & Straits
S.S. "OLINDA"	sails 3rd April	for Japan
S.S. "OZARDA"	due 4th April	from Bombay, Colombo, Straits & Bangkok
S.S. "OZARDA"	sails 8th April	for Japan

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

S.S. "NELLORE"	due 12th April	from Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne
S.S. "NELLORE"	sails 14th April	for Japan
S.S. "NANKIN"	sails 20th April	for Rabaul, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne & Adelaide

Accepting cargo on through bills of lading for Tasmania, New Zealand & Pacific Island Ports.

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to:
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.
Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

Good Turn-Around

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NANCY

"T"-heel

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

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The only House that offers ex-

cellent and comfortable accom-

modation, at moderate charges.

High-class cuisine where meals

cost 60/- per day.

Car provided for convenient

travel.

Register now, to avoid dis-

appointment.

Remember our slogan, "A little

space, a lot gained."

V. H. Chan, Manager.

Lilienthal Attacks US Policy

Washington, Apr. 1.
Dr David Lilienthal warned today that the United States is beginning to repeat in India the same mistake "which 15 years ago paved the way for Communist control of China."

The former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, who recently returned from India, l

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES



ARRIVALS

"GRANVILLE" from Japan 3rd Apr.
"FELIX ROUSSEL" from Marseilles 5th Apr.

SAILINGS

"FELIX ROUSSEL" to Marseilles via Manila 6th Apr.
"LA MARSEILLAISE" to Japan 8th May
"LA MARSEILLAISE" to Marseilles via Manila 19th May

FREIGHT SERVICE

"GRANVILLE" N. Africa & Europe 5th Apr.
"ODT DORISE" N. Africa & Europe 8th May
"DREIST" N. Africa & Europe 15th May

PORT SAID, TUNIS, MARSEILLES, ALGIERS, ORAN,
TANIER, CASABLANCA, HAVRE, DUNKIRK,
ANTWERP & ROTTERDAM.

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
Queen's Building Tel. 26651 (Three Lines)



MAERSK LINE

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NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE & PHILADELPHIA, via
SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES AND PANAMA.

NEXT SAILINGS

*M.S. "HULDA MAERSK" In Port
*M.S. "TREIN MAERSK" Apr. 19
*M.S. "PETER MAERSK" Apr. 30

* This vessel calls Vancouver prior to San Francisco.

ARRIVALS FROM U.S.A.

M.S. "LEXA MAERSK" Apr. 29
M.S. "SALLY MAERSK" May 8
M.S. "CORONA" May 19

For Freights and Further Particulars please apply to:-

AGENTS:

JEBSEN & CO.

Pedder Building Tel. Nos. 26661-3.

THE HONGKONG & YAU MATI FERRY CO., LTD.

FERRY SERVICE TO OUTLYING DISTRICTS
(In force on and after the 1st April, 1951)

CHEUNG CHAU FERRY SERVICE

Leaving Hongkong for Cheung Chau

6.30 a.m. (Direct)

8.55 a.m. (Direct)

9.10 a.m. (Via Ping Chau & S.M.B.)

10.00 a.m. (Direct)

11.00 a.m. (Via Ping Chau & S.M.B.)

1.00 p.m. (Direct)

1.10 p.m. (Via Ping Chau & S.M.B.)

4.20 p.m. (Direct)

4.30 p.m. (Via Ping Chau & S.M.B.)

6.00 p.m. (Direct)

SILVERMINE BAY FERRY SERVICE

Leaving Hongkong for Silvermine Bay

6.30 a.m. (Via Cheung Chau)

9.00 a.m. (Direct)

9.10 a.m. (Via Ping Chau)

11.00 a.m. (Via Ping Chau)

1.10 p.m. (Via Ping Chau)

4.30 p.m. (Via Ping Chau)

PING CHAU FERRY SERVICE

Leaving Hongkong for Ping Chau

6.30 a.m. (Via Cheung Chau)

9.10 a.m.

11.00 a.m.

1.10 p.m.

4.30 p.m.

* Sundays & Public Holidays only.

* Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays only.

TAI O—CASTLE PEAK FERRY SERVICE

Leaving Hongkong

2.00 p.m.

3.00 p.m.

3.45 p.m.

4.30 p.m.

5.45 p.m.

Arriving Tai O

2.00 p.m.

3.00 p.m.

3.45 p.m.

4.30 p.m.

5.45 p.m.

Arriving Hongkong

11.00 a.m.

SUNDAY EXCURSION—DIRECT FERRY TO TAI O

(Commencing from the 29th April, 1951)

Leaving Hongkong

8.30 a.m.

Leaving Tai O

5.00 p.m.

Britain's Gold Reserves Up

London, Apr. 1.
Britain has almost trebled her precious gold dollar reserves since she devalued the Pound 10 months ago, informed sources say.
The country, still riding on the crest of world rearmament demands, has swelled its reserves by around \$300,000,000 in the past three months.
A Treasury statement announcing that reserves have shot to more than \$3,000,000,000 in the quarter ending Saturday, March 31, is expected soon.—Associated Press.

First Drop Registered In Prices

Washington, Apr. 1.
A drop of nearly one per cent in average prices of farm products during the last month was reported by the Government. It was the first break for months in a rising trend that had sent farm prices up 26 per cent since outbreak of the war in Korea.

Reporting the slight drop, the Agriculture Department said food grains, dairy products, hogs and truck crops eased off between mid-February and mid-March.
The declines for these commodities more than offset increases for poultry and eggs, cotton and cotton seed, meat animals other than hogs, and wool.

Prices paid by farmers for items used in farm production and family living, on the other hand, increased 1.5 percent to set new record.

The Department said farm prices as a whole in mid-March averaged 111 percent of parity compared with 113 percent in mid-February, and 95 percent a year ago.
Parity is a standard for measuring farm prices, declared by law to be equally fair to farmers and those who buy their products.

The Department said no new commodities reached levels which would make them subject to price ceilings.—Associated Press.

Israel's Trade With Poland

Tel-Aviv, Apr. 1.
Poland and Israel signed a \$7,500,000 agreement today regulating their trade for the next year, ending March 31, 1952.
Israel will pay for about 65 percent of her imports from Poland by exports to her. This compares with 20 per cent in the first Israeli-Polish trade agreement.

Poland will send to Israel corn, farm produce, metal goods, textiles, chemicals, timber, machinery, piping and other goods. In return she will get citrus fruit and citrus products, chemicals, artificial teeth, dental equipment and razor blades.—Reuter.

Pepper's Gain

New York, Mar. 31.
Pepper prices gained around 4 cents a pound during the week.—United Press.

Sharp Declines In Cotton Futures

New York, Mar. 31.
The impact of the increasingly favourable crop news, along with the Korean peace talks and the weakening prices for light weight fabrics in the drygoods market, pushed cotton futures prices sharply lower this week.

At Friday's close, May contract held unchanged at the ceiling price of 45.39 cents a pound, but other deliveries were off 47 to 86 points or \$2.25 to \$4.30 a bale. Old crop July delivery moved off the ceiling price for the first time since it reached the top limit on March 19.

Statisticians estimated the Government loan rate for new crop on a basis of the latest parity report around 31.53 cents a pound for middling 16-16 inch cotton. Actually the loan rate will be based on the Mid-July parity price. The average loan rate for this season's crop is at 28.45 cents a pound.

The International Cotton Advisory Committee reported that the world consumption of raw cotton is still at an unprecedented post-war rate of over \$2,000,000 bales annually. This rate has greatly exceeded the world production of this season of 27,200,000 bales.

The I.C.A.C. indicated that some question exists as to whether consumption can be maintained at the present rate as many countries have not yet begun to plant new crops.

Tin Talks Breakdown Not A Good Omen For Other Conferences

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

London, Apr. 1.
The conference that has been meeting in Washington discussing an allocation scheme for tin seems to have ended in the same way as the recent rubber conference in London—that is, in agreement to disagree.

The tin conference has not officially broken down but merely broken up. Whether an agreement will eventually be possible depends on the producers and consumers—mainly American consumers—agreeing on what is a "fair" price for the commodity.

Failure of the tin conference is hardly surprising. The position of the Americans is now the reverse of that which they adopted at last year's international tin conference in Geneva.

Now they are very keen advocates of an international allocation scheme but at Geneva it was the producers who wanted international control and were prepared to go a long way to arrange price limits. At that time it was the Americans who objected to minimum prices.

The reversal of the American attitude alone might have destroyed the chances of America getting her way. But a Senate sub-committee report a few days before the conference opened made prospects even worse.

The Senators accused the Malaysian producers of "gouging" the American taxpayer by asking current prices.

The producers are in fact well aware of the dangers of the present situation. The price of tin is now high because of the abnormal demand. Part of this demand is from American stockpiling but there is also a high civilian demand and many countries are looking for chances to buy tin. There are technical difficulties in finding a fair price for the commodity, which costs three times as much to produce in Bolivia as it does in Malaya. But, apart from that, the producers feel justified in seeking an agreement that gives them a lower price level now.

They do not want to suffer when the United States stockpile is complete or the international tension subsides and the commodity heads for a slump. The United States has not given these assurances.

The failure of the tin conference is not a good omen for other commodity talks in Washington. The United States wants Sterling supplies of wool at moderated prices. Conversely there are commodities such as sugar which America holds dear and seems unlikely to release to the world unless a better job is made of international co-operation. Mutually advantageous settlements will probably need some higher level negotiating before they can be put through. At the same time with President Truman temporarily eased Britain's supply problems but another initiative will be needed to override the United States commercial interests' blocking of the present negotiations.

But observers do not take an optimistic view of the situation. It could lead to another large issue to start a fresh decline.

Equities have remained firm despite the meanness of the Budget, which is now not expected to be too bad at all. United Sun Betong (acknowledged leader of the rubber group) announced a dividend of 50 per cent against last year's 17 1/2 per cent. Even this was not enough to satisfy the most optimistic investors but the significance of the company's dividend is that it is based on profits made in selling rubber at last year's average prices which were about half the present price.

Kaffirs and copper shares have had a good week—though some of the best prices have not been held.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market at the following rates:

Sterling note (per £1) 15.69
U.S. dollar (per \$1) 0.2225
Indonesian (per 100) 26.50
Singapore (per 100) 1.910
SIC plaques (per 100) 14.05

After the close on Friday, the Department of Agriculture announced the mid-March parity price for middling 7/8 inch cotton at 33.60 cents a pound—a rise of 49 points over the previous month.

Statisticians estimated the Government loan rate for new crop on a basis of the latest parity report around 31.53 cents a pound for middling 16-16 inch cotton. Actually the loan rate will be based on the Mid-July parity price. The average loan rate for this season's crop is at 28.45 cents a pound.

The International Cotton Advisory Committee reported that the world consumption of raw cotton is still at an unprecedented post-war rate of over \$2,000,000 bales annually. This rate has greatly exceeded the world production of this season of 27,200,000 bales.

The I.C.A.C. indicated that some question exists as to whether consumption can be maintained at the present rate as many countries have not yet begun to plant new crops.

Prices closed today as follows:

Spot May 45.39
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Assurances Given To France

No More Bilateral Discussions

Washington, Apr. 1. Authoritative sources said tonight that President Auriol of France had been given assurances during his visit here that France would be fully consulted by the United States on every matter affecting the security of all countries within the French Union. They said this meant France would participate in any future discussions dealing with defence and there would be no further bilateral discussions on this subject between the United States and Great Britain as recently at Malta.

Furthermore, the sources said, this assurance was expected to result in greater French responsibility in the planning of defence strategy of the Mediterranean than had been originally planned. It was pointed out in this connection that France should provide a strategic air force of her own based on the North African bases but this was not expected to be possible for at least two years.

In the meantime, the French government is expected here as anxious to be training technical personnel for this purpose with US aid and would like to have close liaison with strategic air force policy on the North African air bases.

M. Auriol's visit here is believed to have resulted also in the expectation that France will be more frequently consulted on Far Eastern policy in view of her interests in Indo-China. Sources added that the US Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, was understood to have suggested the French Foreign Minister, M. Robert Schuman, that France would be fully consulted on all matters concerning the Eastern Mediterranean, including the desire of Turkey and Greece to join the Atlantic Pact.—United Press.

VIETMINH REPULSED

(Continued from Page 1)

number of dead on the ground," the communists said. "According to French reconnaissance reports, important Vietnamese armaments" were destroyed.

Fighters and bombers last night attacked Vietminh concentrations of at least two regiments while they were regrouping north-east of Ongtieu and completely dispersed them," the communists added.

Earlier today Vietminh troops were reported to have launched a new attack last night with mortars and machine-guns on Maokhe Fort, which guards the north-eastern tip of the French-held Red River bridge-head.

Only light, spasmodic contact was being maintained today. The attack on the fort, made by Vietminh troops who raced down from the rugged cloud-cloved Ongtieu mountains, was weaker than the earlier one reported in the communiqué. The fighting ended before midnight.

Elsewhere along the 100-mile northern delta front, last night was calm, French sources said. But French patrols met Vietminh machine-gun fire while probing from the strong-hold of Seven Pagodas, 18 miles west of Maokhe, into the foothills of the Western fringe of the Ongtieu—Reuter.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. "Programme Summary": 6.02, "Children's Quiz" conducted by Yvonne Chan and Anthony Catech (Studio); 6.30, Portuguese Half Hour (Studio); 7.00, Songs by Anne Ziegler (Soprano) and Margaret Booth (Tenor); 7.15, United Nations Album; 7.30, Symphony of Strings Gershwins and His String Quartet (DBCT); 8.00, World News and News Analysis (London Relay); 8.15, "Visions of the Future" No. 2, "The Future of Man" A Talk by Stephen Potter (DBCT); 8.30, "I Like What I Like" presented by Betty Pollitt (Studio); 8.50, "From the Editor's" (London Relay); 9.30, Weather Report; 9.45, "Hymns" (DBCT); 9.55, "Cockade" (DBCT); 10.00, "A Mystery Play" by Boston Gladly (DBCT); 11.00, Radio News (London Relay); 11.15, "Goodnight Music"; 11.30, Weather Report; God Save The King; 11.30, Close Down.

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PRINCESS GOES TO A DINNER PARTY



Smiling Princess Elizabeth and her lady-in-waiting drive away after a private dinner party which they attended recently at the Savoy Hotel.—London Express Service.

PI Clean-Up On Chinese

Manila, Apr. 2. Philippine Immigration and Army authorities are checking up on the entry of an estimated 70,000 Chinese in the Philippines who came in on the strength of fake certificates showing they were pre-war residents here unable to return as a result of the outbreak of the Pacific war. The authorities believed many of them have never been in the Philippines. It was understood such aliens would be deported either to Hongkong or Formosa. The mass check-up opened after immigration agents discovered at least nine cases in which aliens were cleared by the Philippine Consulate in Hongkong as returning residents. Consulate clearance had been made on the strength of 1941 residence certificates, cancelled steamship tickets and claims of applicants that they were unable to return to the Philippines when war broke out.—United Press.

Mail Notices

Registered articles and parcels must be sent one day earlier than the ordinary mail. When mails close on Sundays and public holidays, the closing times are as follows: Registered articles and parcels close at 5 p.m. on the day before the ordinary mail closes. Registered articles and parcels close at 5 p.m. on the day before the ordinary mail closes.

MONDAY, APRIL 2

By Air

U.S.A., Canada, 3 p.m. P.A.A. Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, China, 5 p.m. P.O.A. Siam, 5 p.m. P.O.A. C.P.A. Formosa, 5 p.m. N.W.A.L. Formosa, 5 p.m. Surface

Macao, 6 a.m. 4.30 p.m. as Yu Men and as Tak Shing. 8.30 a.m. 4.30 p.m. train via Canton. Indo-China, 2 p.m. as P.O.A. TUESDAY, APRIL 3

By Air

Formosa, 10 p.m. C.A.T. Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 5 p.m. P.A.L. Siam, 5 p.m. P.O.A. C.P.A. Formosa, 5 p.m. Surface

Macao, 6 a.m. 4.30 p.m. as Yu Men and as Tak Shing. 8.30 a.m. 4.30 p.m. train via Canton. Indo-China, 2 p.m. as P.O.A. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

By Air

Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 9.30 a.m. C.A.T. Formosa, 10 a.m. C.A.T. Ceylon, 2 p.m. P.O.A. Siam, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa & Europe, 5 p.m. B.O.A.C. Indo-China, 5 p.m. Air France. Formosa, 5 p.m. H.K. Airways. Japan, Korea, 5 p.m. B.O.A.C. Surface

Macao, 6 a.m. 4.30 p.m. as Yu Men and as Tak Shing. 8.30 a.m. 4.30 p.m. train via Canton. Indo-China, 2 p.m. as P.O.A. as Giorochy.

Defendant, Tan Wai, 40, was corporally remanded until April 4 on bail of \$1,000.

Alleged Assault On Staircase

An alleged incident on a staircase led to the appearance of a 23-year-old unemployed before the Senior Puisne Judge, Mr Justice Gould, in the Criminal Sessions, this morning on an indictment of assault with intent to rob.

The accused, Lee Kam-ping, being armed with an offensive weapon, is alleged to have assaulted Yu Sau-king, a married woman, on the staircase of No. 22 Yuen Chow Street, Kowloon, on the night of January 12 last.

Mr J. Reynolds, Crown Counsel, is conducting the case for the Prosecution. Accused is not legally represented.

A Jury of six men and a woman has been empanelled. The Prosecution said that about 8.45 p.m. on January 12 last, complainant was returning to her home on the third floor of No. 22 Yuen Chow Street, with a parcel under her arm.

On her way up the stairs she heard footsteps behind her. She stood aside to allow the person to pass. That person, the Prosecution alleged, was the accused who, after passing the complainant, struck her on the eye, causing her to drop the parcel. Complainant turned to run and fell down the stairs. Accused, however, ran towards the roof.

About this time, a neighbour, Su Cheung, was returning home and saw the complainant rolling down the stairs. As a result of what was told him, said the Prosecution, Su ran up the stairs and on to the roof where he found accused. He brought him down and later took him to the Police Station.

Mr Reynolds said that accused, in answer to the present

Disorderly Conduct: Fined \$16

Two privates from the Royal Leicestershire Regiment were fined \$16 by Mr Winter at Kowloon this morning for disorderly conduct.

The defendants, Stanley Williamson and George Ernest Davis, were accused of behaving in a disorderly manner outside a public house in Hankow Road yesterday morning.

The case is proceeding.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"My husband is an advertising man—why not turn your sewing club membership drive over to him?"

H.K. LAND INVESTMENT CO. SHAREHOLDER CRITICAL Urges Increase In Dividend Payments Out Of Larger Profits

At the Annual General Meeting of The Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited, this morning Mr J. H. Sethi objected to the method of financing capital expenditure out of revenue.

Mr Sethi said that out of the increased profits of \$1,200,000 made all the shareholders received was a further \$120,000 or 10 percent. "I submit that the reserve for depreciation is excessive," said Mr Sethi.

"It seems to me that the Directors could have declared a dividend of \$4.80 less tax and transferred to reserve nine lakhs instead of eleven," he added. "It is all very well to talk of posterity but we expect something out of the earnings and in my opinion the creation of Edinburgh House and rushing into the creation of Alexandra Building was premature as we were getting a reasonable return from the Alexandra Building," he said, "and I think that we could have waited another year."

The Chairman (the Hon. D. F. Landale) said: Before proceeding with the business of the Meeting I must refer with regard to the death of Mr. S. T. Williamson, which occurred in September last. Mr. Williamson had served as a Director of your Company since 1934 and I take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the valuable services he rendered to the Company, and our deep sympathy with his family.

Since our last Annual Meeting further progress has been made in the redevelopment of the Alexandra Building site. In spite of the rather difficult supply position, contracts have been placed for all the essential items of building material which need to be imported, and no delay in completion on this score is expected. It all goes according to plan. We shall see the new building ready for occupation—or very nearly so—by about this time next year.

Applications for premises in your buildings continue to accumulate. By the time the new building is ready some of these applicants will of course have found space elsewhere but we do anticipate difficulty in letting the premises at rentals which will yield a fair and reasonable return on this investment.

Cheung is accused of robbing the Hope Bros Watch Shop at 261 Des Voeux Road of three Omegas and a Rolex wrist watch. According to Mr M. Heenan, Crown Counsel, on the evening of December 11 last year a Chinese entered the shop and asked to be shown the watches which were placed on the counter for his inspection. As an assistant was about to replace them in the showcase, the man produced a pistol and told him not to move. He then collected all four watches and left quickly.

Accused was arrested on January 17 and was identified at a parade the following day by one of the salesmen, but not by the man who had served him. On January 19 he was identified by another salesman. The watches were not recovered and no arms were found. The case is proceeding.

Watch Robbery Trial Opens

The new Chief Justice, Sir Gerard Howe, sat in his first criminal case at the Supreme Court this morning when Cheung Ching stood trial, before a jury of three women and four men, on a charge of robbery with aggravation.

As I mentioned last year, your Company has a special responsibility, as the holder of a portion of the property in the central business area, to proceed with further redevelopment to meet the requirements of the business and professional community in this area.

In so confined a business centre, and with so great a demand for all available accommodation, it has been no easy matter to carry out a progressive rebuilding programme, but the first and most difficult steps have now been taken, and your Company will henceforth be in a rather better position to face the developments of your older and more productive properties, building by building, as the demand for premises in the area and the general situation allow.

Before turning to the Accounts I propose to deal rather more broadly with some aspects of your Company's affairs over the past five years and to draw some conclusions which have a bearing on your Directors' recommendations for the year 1950.

In very round figures, the total working profit earned during this period amounted to \$9,000,000, from which Taxation of \$800,000 has to be allowed, leaving \$8,200,000, which has been allocated as follows: Dividend after deducting Tax: \$5,400,000; Provision for Depreciation and Replacement of Buildings: \$2,500,000; Transfers to Reserves, etc.: \$300,000.

These figures include the allocations proposed for 1950. It will be noted that rather less than one third of the total amount of working profit has been set aside towards the replacement of buildings. Although it is appreciated by your Directors that provision for the replacement of Fixed Assets should be calculated on the current replacement cost rather than on the original, or "historical," cost, it was not decided to readjust the basic scale of provision for depreciation and replacement until last year. It was clear, however, that the building costs were not likely to fall appreciably for some long time, and your Directors therefore decided that they should take a more realistic view of their obligation to see that the Company's real assets were not allowed to dissipate themselves by wear and obsolescence, without this provision

for their replacement. Consequently the old scale of depreciation was reviewed and adjusted for last year in relation to current building costs.

The effect has of course been to increase substantially the amount to be put aside from the profits for 1950, the figure being some \$1,180,000 out of a total profit of \$3,200,000.

In proportion to the amount of working profit for the year this allocation may seem high, but it is to be remembered that the profit figure itself is still affected by rent control. You may be surprised to learn that if your Company were able to charge rentals adjusted very roughly in proportion to the rise in operating and replacement costs the revenue figure for last year might have been increased to about \$5,200,000, and it is to this figure that the allocation for building replacement should be related, rather than to the actual profit shown.

It would then be roughly one fifth of the total and this is just about what it should be. I should like you to realise that this allocation is intended to cover only the replacement of the equivalent amount of building as now existing and makes no provision for the additional capital required for the building improvements and enlargements inherent in all redevelopment projects. This additional capital must come very largely from further subscription, although a proportion of it may, as in the past, accrue from the sale of those old properties which do not for one reason or another fit comfortably into the general picture of your holdings.

RENT CONTROL

I feel that it would not be proper to leave this subject without underlining the fact that, in maintaining rent control in its present form over commercial premises, Government appears to have given insufficient weight to the effect of rising prices, not only upon the cost of operating commercial buildings, but also upon the cost of their eventual replacement. As you will have appreciated from my remarks of a few moments ago, this item must as far as possible be covered from current revenue, and represents a considerable proportion of that revenue.

The effect of rent control on your properties over the five years 1946 to 1950 can perhaps be better appreciated when I tell you that if your Directors had been allowed to readjust rentals during this period in rough proportion to the increase in operating and building replacement costs, the additional revenue from your buildings up to the end of 1950 would have amounted to nearly \$13,000,000. This can be taken as a measure of the subsidy which you have been required to contribute to the profits of those of your business tenants who are paying controlled rents. Ironically, most of these tenants have during these five years enjoyed unprecedented prosperity. Many of them would have been glad to accept a reasonable adjustment, but as business men they very naturally accept the bounty which the law allows.

With the continued shortage of floor space it is perhaps too early to expect the complete rent control over commercial premises, but it seems fair that the landlord of such premises should be permitted to adjust his charges so as to allow a reasonable return, incidentally encouraging thereby those people with sufficient faith in the future of the Colony to support and finance the kind of enterprise in which your Company is engaged.

INCREASED PROFIT

Turning to the Accounts, I should explain that various minor changes in the form have been introduced in order to bring them into line with present-day practice. They are designed primarily to give Shareholders a clearer idea of the Company's finances. The corresponding figures for 1949 have been adjusted so as to relate appropriately to those of last year.

The Profit for the year amounted to \$3,184,000 which is some \$1,200,000 more than for 1949. The increase was due mainly to the revenue from Edinburgh House, which was completed in March, 1950. The rentals for this building, although considered quite moderate, give a very fair return on this investment. Unfortunately the same cannot be said of the older properties still subject to rent control, and although the increase allowed over the 1941 basic rentals for non-domestic tenancies was increased from 50 per cent to 100 per cent from November 1949 the added revenue is not by any means commensurate with the rise since 1941 in operating and replacement costs.

There has been a slight falling off in the profit figure for the Gloucester Hotel, but this is due entirely to a "book entry" rental adjustment. The moderate increase in charges made earlier in the year in respect of new transient bookings was balanced by increased operating costs, which unfortunately are still rising.

You will notice a new item in the Balance Sheet, under the heading of Revenue Reserves and Surplus, shown as Fire Insurance Reserve. Your Directors decided last year that a part of the insurance on your new buildings of fire-resisting construction should be carried by the Company, the amount of premium saved to be invested in a Fire Insurance Fund. Since the close of the year the funds available for this purpose have been invested in United Kingdom Gilt Edged securities, to form the nucleus of a Fund which should eventually cover the Company's full requirements against fire losses.

DEPRECIATION

I have already referred at some length to the increased allocation for the depreciation and replacement of buildings. Following present-day practice, the Reserve for Depreciation and Replacement has been shown as a deduction from the actual cost of the Buildings.

The increase in the figure shown for the cost of buildings arises from the completion of Edinburgh House in March, 1950, less the cost of the old Alexandra Building which was demolished during the year.

Before concluding my remarks I should like on your behalf to extend to all members of the Staff a word of appreciation for the excellent services which they have given to your Company during the past year. The reputation of a Company depends so very much upon the character and efficiency of its Staff and I feel that you are to be congratulated upon having such a loyal and hard-working team. Your Directors recommend that the balance of \$3,245,612 available for appropriation should be dealt with as follows:

To reserve for Corporation Profit Tax, 1951/2: \$395,532; Amortisation of Crown Leases: \$900; Depreciation and Replacement of Buildings: \$1,180,728; To Transfer to General Reserve: \$250,000; To pay a bonus to Staff: \$30,000; To pay a Dividend for the year 1950 of \$4 per share, less Tax: \$1,400,000; To carry forward unappropriated \$22,652. These proposed appropriations have been incorporated in the Accounts now before you.

Mr D. E. Clark seconded the proposal which was carried with one vote against.

INTELLIGENCE TEST SOLUTION: Let there be 4 marbles of each of the four colours. Of two colours may be drawn before the first marble of a third colour may be drawn. At this point it may be necessary to draw 4 marbles plus a third colour. So the number that must be drawn is 5 and the number left in the bag is 11.

What is in it? The correct answer would have been drawn. London Express Service.

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From The Files

100 Years Ago

On the evening of Monday a goodly number of the citizens of Victoria has much pleasure in witnessing the launch, from the slip of East Point, of a beautifully modelled vessel, of about 250 tons, built by Mr John Lamont, for the firm of Jardine Matheson and Co., and intended for their coasting trade; in which, it is anticipated, she will excel in the way of speed, everything of her class now in China. She is built entirely of teak, and is copper fastened throughout.

Never was there a more faithfully constructed vessel launched from any yard, and Hongkong has good reason to be proud of her. (We might add, without fear of being charged with excessive flattery, —and of the talented artisan whose energies and ingenuity have been brought to bear in her construction.)

She is in length, from the keel to the figure head, 107 feet 3 inches; beam, amidships, 24½ feet; and in depth of hold 17 feet. It is intended that she shall be rigged as a top sail schooner. We were not present at the launch, but understand that, every arrangement being perfect, it was successful to a degree. Mr Robert Jardine, bestowd on her the classic name "Iona."

Piracy Frustrated

About four o'clock on Monday afternoon continued firing of guns from the "Reynard" and "Cleopatra" (the blue peter being hoisted, and preparations for getting under weigh made on board the former vessel) indicated mischief afoot somewhere; but where that somewhere was, there was, for some time, quite a difficulty to find.

About 5 p.m., it became current that the H. M. C. S. "Str. Hongkong" had been waylaid by a fleet of pirate boats. Captain Hill, his officers, crew, and passengers, all murdered; and that treasure, to the amount of \$400,000 had fallen an easy prize to the adventurers who had made a dash for it.

About 5 p.m. the "Reynard" despatches being sent, she steamed away quite rapidly, making a short tour of inspection down to the patent slip and back again, before leaving the harbour. Shortly afterwards Capt. Gladly of the U.S.S. "Marion" proceeded on board the Steam "Spark" with thirty armed seamen, and she also followed rapidly in the "Reynard's" trail.

About 9 p.m. the "Spark" returned with intelligence that the "Hongkong" had been seen by the Master of the American ship "Channing" about 2.30 p.m. on Monday, a little above Tiger Island; everything then appearing to be right on board. The Post Boat, later in the day, reported the Steamer's safe arrival off Canton.

That a party of armed desperadoes were on board the Steamer, with intention of forcibly taking possession of her, there is every reason to believe; they being retained; probably, by the presence of half a dozen European passengers.

The only fault we have to find with the measures adopted is that they were so long in being carried into effect. Why the "Reynard" did not proceed on to Canton, instead of returning with Mr Caldwell, who could probably have traced the whereabouts of some of the conspirators, we are also at some loss to find out.

The Weather

During the present month the weather has not been characterised by anything remarkable. The highest range of the Barometer has been 30.12, the lowest 29.75. The Thermometer has been at 75 in the shade, a maximum; and at 61 in the minimum. The winds prevailing almost invariably from the eastward, in average moderate strength, with light falls of rain on five days only. (The average number of rainy days in March being twelve.)

There appears, by a comparison of the sanitary tables, to have been a trifling increase of sickness in the garrison; but there is one death less than was recorded last month; and of the four who have deceased in this, one, we hear, died of a fit of apoplexy brought on by an excessive debauch.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers:

1. The Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. 2. A water-bird (ditch) called a cattle. 3. Wyoming, Westland, Washington, and West Virginia. 4. A. Estivalora; deep during summer droughts, while hibernators sleep during the winter. 5. D. 6. Spain.